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Assistant Director for Operations

1 November 1948

Chief, FBIB

**Security in FBIB Processing of Soviet Economic Material**

1. In consultation with Chief, Communications Division, the following alternate means of transmitting Soviet economic intercepts from Cyprus have been developed:

a. Manual enciphering by one-time pad. This means would require for an estimated 8,000 words per day of such material the full time of fifteen to twenty cipher clerks if ciphering were done on Cyprus, or of ten to fifteen clerks if transmission from Cyprus to London were in the clear and enciphering done in London at an estimated cost of \$60,000 to \$80,000 and \$40,000 to \$60,000 respectively.

b. Teletype scrambling by one-time tape. This method requires that the British assume responsibility for delivery of clear text in London, whether by transmission over clear cable or by scrambled cable-code radio transmission from Cyprus. Scrambled transmission from London to Washington involves 1) Slight additional load on teletype operators, 2) More frequent garbling of messages, 3) Possible difficulty in procurement of tapes, and 4) Procurement of about \$1500 worth of new equipment.

c. Scrambling by machine. This method permits automatic transmission from Cyprus to Washington, with no additional workload, provided that 1) machines are available, and 2) the BBC and the USIB London wire room are permitted access to them. These points are being investigated.

d. Air mail or diplomatic pouch. Transmission time by pouch varies from one week to thirty days. It is possible, however, that arrangements might be made with commercial air lines to utilize crew members of particular flights as couriers.

2. Problems of transmission from Okinawa are identical with those of transmission from London.

3. It is believed that the leased teletype line from West Coast Bureau will be regarded as sufficiently secure.

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4. If it becomes necessary to avoid radio communication of Soviet economic material in the clear, it is recommended:

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a. That scrambling machines be employed from Cyprus to Washington if they are available and accessible to BBC personnel and the staff of the London relay center.

b. That if scrambling machines cannot be used, the BBC be made responsible for delivery of the material to London and that it be transmitted to Washington scrambled by one-time tape.

c. That one-time tape be used for scrambled transmission from Okinawa to Washington.

d. Aside from problems of transmission, it is believed that the processed and collated assemblage of Soviet economic data as represented in the "Facts and Figures" section of current weekly "Survey of USSR Broadcasts" warrants a classification higher than "Restricted." It is recommended that this section be published as a separate volume under a "Confidential" classification. It is estimated that processing of the additional volume of information expected to be available after activation of the Cyprus Station will require one, and possibly two, additional analysts.

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